

THE ST. LOUIS REPUBLIC

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Address: THE REPUBLIC, St. Louis, Mo.
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portunity to nominate a known tool of the largest and most powerful corporation in the city. In no point of public service is Horion equal even to James Butler. He is weaker in ability and less capable of the district. It is not a guess, but a certainty, that he was nominated for their own purposes by the political bosses of the Transit company.

Under these conditions Democrats have no choice. They would have been willing, though losing a member of Congress, to register their disapproval of Mr. Butler's occupation and political methods. The Republicans have given them nothing but a worse than Butler. The only course left is to vote for the Democratic nominee, who at least offers the assurance of a vote on party issues in Congress.

STATE THE FACTS.

All that is necessary for Democratic campaign speakers in Missouri to do in behalf of the success of their party in this State is to tell the truth of the services rendered by Democracy to the people of Missouri. The plain relation of these services is a powerful argument for continued support of Missouri Democracy.

Under Democratic rule, Missouri, the fifth State in wealth and one of the most prosperous of all the States, enjoys the lowest tax rate of any State in the Union. Missouri's State tax is now 15 cents on the \$100 valuation for State revenue and 10 cents for the payment of State interest. So light a tax burden is not borne by the people of any other American commonwealth.

A bonded debt of \$20,868,000, imposed upon Missouri by the State of New York, has been wiped out under Democratic rule with less than \$2,000,000 remains to be paid. During the period of this reduction the State institutions have been improved and enlarged, many new ones established, a material increase made in the endowment for the support of the public schools and the State University. The State School Fund, misappropriated by the Republicans until the only trace of it consisted of a lot of canceled State bonds, has been restored by the Democrats, placed upon a firm basis secured by the sound credit of Missouri, increased five-fold in amount, drawing a steady rate of interest protected from the fluctuations of the money market.

Under Democratic rule there has been a wide and just assessment of railroad and farm properties in Missouri which has legitimately and properly increased the assessment of the former and decreased that of the latter. In Republican States contiguous to Missouri the low assessment of railroad property is in striking contrast to the figures upon which the equitably assessed railroads must pay taxes in this Democratic State.

The Republican charge of extravagance brought against the Democratic Forty-fourth General Assembly of Missouri may be properly answered by pointing to the record of the recent Republican Congress, which created new offices and increased salaries to the tune of \$5,250,000 yearly increase in the cost of government. The increased number of clerks in the last Missouri Legislature may be corrected at the next session. The Republican increase in the expenses of the national government is in the nature of a fixed burden.

These are but a few of the truths upon which Democratic campaign orators may dwell with advantage in presenting Democracy's claim for popular support in Missouri. There is no phase of Democratic service in this State which does not additionally prove the deserts of the party which has so long and so wisely administered Missouri's affairs. The facts of this service should be kept continually before the people; plainly and without undue oratorical ostentation. The facts speak for themselves.

SAME OLD KIND.

In the nomination of candidates for the State Legislature the Republican organization in St. Louis has displayed no marked desire to bring about that legislative reform, in an alleged solicitude for which the Globe-Democrat and Dick Dalton are so vociferously urging the defeat of the Democratic party in Missouri.

The legislative act for which Missouri Republicans and its organ in St. Louis most indignantly denounce the Forty-fourth General Assembly of Missouri was the passage of the bill which made possible the consolidation of the various street railway lines of St. Louis.

Yet the two Republican members of that body who were yesterday renominated for the Legislature by St. Louis Republicans were men who voted for the street railway consolidation bill in the last Legislature, and the remaining nominations contain no promise of betterment of the Republican representation.

Only by the virtually solid alignment of Republicans on the side of the lobby in the Forty-fourth General Assembly of Missouri was the passage of certain lobby measures by that body made possible. The Democratic majority was on the side of the people against the lobby. Republican gains in the next Legislature, should there be any, will logically be going for the lobby